

A.B.C. STEAMSHIP LINE

A B C
10,14,8
4½mm
Cat. No. 53.1

H. Newhouse & Co., Ltd.,
A.B.C. Wharf,
South Quay,
Yarmouth, Norfolk.

Henry Newhouse founded the A.B.C. line of steamers about 1892. Promoting and registering a company, the A.B.C. Steamship Line Limited in 1898. As a member of the Yarmouth Port & Haven Commission and an agent for Lloyd's he was involved in the salving of many vessels and cargoes on the Norfolk Coast. Besides building ships, under contract, for the Canadian Government, for mail service on the St. Lawrence, he was able to supply vessels for the fishing industry of Vancouver.

According to sailing bills of the early 1900's, a thrice-weekly service was running between the Norfolk port of Yarmouth and the very important Yorkshire port of Hull, using the steamers Yarmouth and Flamingo. This was reduced to a twice-weekly service by 1908, with the Eastern Counties on station.

In 1903, Henry organised a system of tugs and lighter on the local rivers. At about the same time he joined others in a venture to purchase Household gravel pits at Norwich. Thereby providing his lighters with regular gravel and flint cargoes. He also pioneered a scheme for the benefit of local manufacturer's, whereby they were able to send their merchandise in bulk to Hull for distribution. Goods being available in Yorkshire and the surrounding areas the day after the order had been received.

The demands of the British Government resulted in the vessels of Newhouse's associated companies being commandeered for war work in 1916. Even the steam and electric cranes, familiar sights on the South Quay at Yarmouth, went to Lagos, Nigeria.

With the departure of his four sons into the service of their country, Henry Newhouse decided to call it a day and retired.

On the 2nd June 1925, a message from the surgeon on board R.M.S. Euripides, a day out of Cape Town from Australia, was transmitted via Walfisch Bay - 'Regret Henry Newhouse just passed away'.

<u>Issues Reported</u>		<u>Postmarks</u>
Queen Victoria	½d vermilion ½d blue-green	Gt. Yarmouth 33/5/1899 Norwich 1901
King Edward VII	½d blue-green ½d green 1d scarlet	Norwich 10/1/1903 Norwich 9/3/1905
King George V		
1912	½d green 1d scarlet	
1912-22	½d green	